

CO₂ recovery device 20 even when the high efficiency recovery condition is satisfied, if the user input part (that is, HMI 42) receives this operation prohibit instruction.

Second Embodiment

[0122] Next, a control device of a vehicle according to the second embodiment will be explained. The configuration of the control device of a vehicle according to the second embodiment is basically similar to the configuration of the control device of a vehicle according to the first embodiment. Below, the parts different from the configuration of the control device of a vehicle according to first embodiment will be focused on in the explanation.

[0123] Configuration of Vehicle

[0124] FIG. 4 is a view schematically showing the configuration of the vehicle 1 according to the present embodiment. As shown in FIG. 4, in the vehicle 1 according to the second embodiment, as the source of power driving the vehicle 1, the motor 17 is used instead of the internal combustion engine 10 in the first embodiment. The motor 17 uses the electric power of the battery to generate drive force for driving the vehicle 1.

[0125] As shown in FIG. 4, in the present embodiment, the CO₂ recovery device 20 is configured so as to recover the CO₂ in the air outside of the vehicle. The CO₂ recovery device 20 includes a CO₂ recovery part 21, suction pump 22, and outside connection passage 26. The CO₂ recovery device 20 communicates with the outside of the vehicle through the outside connection passage 26.

[0126] The outside connection passage 26 extends in the front-back direction of the vehicle 1 beneath the underbody of the vehicle 1. In particular, in the present embodiment, the inlet of the outside connection passage 26 is arranged in the motor compartment. Further, the CO₂ recovery part 21 is provided at the outside connection passage 26. Therefore, the outside connection passage 26 is configured so as to be able to make the air at the outside of the vehicle 1 flow from the outside of the vehicle 1 into the CO₂ recovery part 21. Furthermore, the outside connection passage 26 is configured to discharge the air after recovery of CO₂ by the CO₂ recovery part 21 to the outside of the vehicle. Note that, if possible to make the air around the vehicle 1 flow through the outside connection passage 26 into the CO₂ recovery part 21, the outside connection passage 26 may be configured in any way. Therefore, for example, the inlet of the outside connection passage 26 may be arranged at a side surface of the vehicle 1 (surface of vehicle 1 extending in front-back direction).

[0127] The suction pump 22 is provided at the outside connection passage 26 communicated with the CO₂ recovery part 21. In the present embodiment, the suction pump 22 is arranged at the downstream side of the CO₂ recovery part 21 in the direction of flow of gas at the outside connection passage 26. The suction pump 22 is configured to use the electric power of the battery 50 to suck in gas from the outside of the vehicle and forcibly send it to the CO₂ recovery part 21.

[0128] As shown in FIG. 4, the CO₂ recovery device 20 is provided with a CO₂ concentration sensor 27 detecting the concentration of CO₂ in the air around the vehicle 1. In the present embodiment, the CO₂ concentration sensor 27 is arranged near the inlet of the outside connection passage 26. The CO₂ concentration sensor 27 is connected to the ECU 31 and outputs its measurement value to the ECU 31. Note that,

the CO₂ concentration sensor 27 may also be arranged at a location other than the outside connection passage 26 so long as able to detect the concentration of CO₂ in the air around the vehicle 1.

[0129] Note that, in the present embodiment, the CO₂ recovery device 20 does not have a cooling part such as used in the first embodiment. This is because in the present embodiment, air at the outside of the vehicle flows into the CO₂ recovery part 21, and the air at the outside of the vehicle basically does not become high enough in temperature so as to cause desorption of CO₂ at the CO₂ recovery part 21.

[0130] Summary of Method of Recovery of CO₂

[0131] Next, the method of recovery of CO₂ according to the present embodiment will be explained. In the present embodiment, in the CO₂ recovery device 20, if the CO₂ recovery device 20 is operated (that is, the suction pump 22 is operated), air outside the vehicle flows through the outside connection passage 26. Note that, even if the suction pump 22 is not being operated, if the vehicle 1 is being driven, air at the outside of the vehicle flows through the outside connection passage 26 due to the running wind. If air outside of the vehicle flows through the outside connection passage 26 and into the CO₂ recovery part 21, the CO₂ adsorbent of the CO₂ recovery part 21 and the inflowing air contact each other. As a result, the CO₂ recovery part 21 adsorbs and removes the CO₂ from the air whereby the CO₂ in the air is recovered by the CO₂ recovery part 21. The air after the CO₂ is recovered by the CO₂ recovery part 21 flows through the outside connection passage 26 and is discharged to the outside of the vehicle.

[0132] Control of Operation of CO₂ Recovery Device

[0133] In this regard, in order to operate the suction pump 22, that is, to operate the CO₂ recovery device 20, electric power of the battery 50 is used. For this reason, if the CO₂ recovery device 20 is operated when the concentration of CO₂ in the air around the vehicle 1 is low, that is, when the efficiency of recovery of CO₂ at the CO₂ recovery device 20 is low, a sufficient amount of recovery of CO₂ is not obtained with respect to the electric power of the battery 50 consumed by operation of the CO₂ recovery device 20.

[0134] Therefore, in the present embodiment as well, the control device 30 permits operation of the CO₂ recovery device 20 when a high efficiency recovery condition, at which the efficiency of recovery of CO₂ showing a ratio of the amount of recovery of CO₂ at the CO₂ recovery device 20 with respect to the electric power consumed by the battery 50 is equal to or greater than a preset predetermined efficiency, is satisfied, and prohibits operation of the CO₂ recovery device 20 when the high efficiency recovery condition is not satisfied. As a result, in the present embodiment as well, a CO₂ recovery device with a larger amount of recovery of CO₂ with respect to the electric power of the battery consumed by the CO₂ recovery device (that is, with a higher efficiency of recovery of CO₂) is provided.

[0135] In the present embodiment, the high efficiency recovery condition is that, for example, the concentration of CO₂ in the air around the vehicle 1 is equal to or greater than a predetermined threshold value. Therefore, for example, if the concentration of CO₂ in the air around the vehicle 1 is equal to or greater than a predetermined threshold value, it is judged that the high efficiency recovery condition has been satisfied, while if the concentration of CO₂ in the air